

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the second Office Action dated February 1, 2006. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks. A petition for an extension of time for filing this response to within the first extended month accompanies this submission.

Allowable claims 3 and 10

The courtesy of the examiner in indicating allowable subject matter in claims 3 and 10 is acknowledged with appreciation. Claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 3, so that amended claim 1, and claims 2, and 4 to 16 are allowable as dependent on an allowable claim. Claim 3 is canceled. Withdrawn claims 15 and 16 are amended and can be rejoined given the finding of the examiner in allowing the subject matter of claim 3.

New Claims 29 to 40 are added. New claim 29 is like a combination of original claim 1 and the allowable original claim 10, so that new claims 29 to 41 are allowable.

Withdrawn claims 15, 16, 25 and 28

Dealing now with the withdrawn claims 15, 16, 25 and 28, please note that claims 15 and 16 are dependent on allowable claim 1 that is believed to be generic to the non-elected species as now presented. The limitations of withdrawn claim 25 are moved to pending claim 23. It is noted that the limitations of claim 25 are like those allowed in claim 3, so amended claim 23 is allowable at least for that reasons. Claim 24 is retained as dependent on allowable claim 23. Withdrawn claim 25 is canceled in view of the above. Claims 26 and 27 are retained as dependent on allowable claim 23. To the extent that claims 23, 24, 26 and 27 were rejected as in

section 3, section 5 (claims 26, 27), and section 6, those rejections are all overcome by migrating the allowable subject matter of claim 25 to claim 23.

Finally, withdrawn claim 28 is canceled without disclaimer or prejudice in view of the cancellation of its base claim 21, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 17 to 22

Claims 17 to 22 were initially rejected. Claims 17 to 19 and 21 were rejected as unpatentable over Higuchi in view of Lin for the reasons included in section 5 on pages 3 and 4 of the Action. Claims 17 to 22 were among the claims rejected as unpatentable over Heiligers in view of Lin for the reasons stated in section 6 on pages 4 to 6 of the Action. Claim 22 was among the claims rejected in section 7 on page 6 of the Action. Without acquiescence in or agreement with these statements of the rejection, claims 17 to 22 are canceled pending their presentation in a continuing application in view of the potential for allowance of this application as now amended.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 2, 4 to 16, 23, 24, 26, 27, and 29 to 41 are now in condition for allowance, and request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued for this application. Claims 3, 17 to 22, 25 and 28 are canceled. Rejoinder of withdrawn claims 14, 15 and the subject matter of withdrawn claim 15 is respectfully solicited.

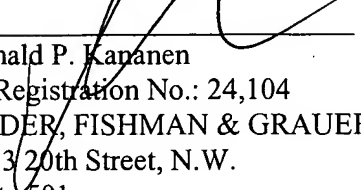
Application No. 10/813,044
Amendment dated May 1, 2006
Reply to Office Action of February 1, 2006

Docket No.: SOA-0385

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application into even better form, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: May 8, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 180013 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.